



**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Koichiro KOMATSU et al.

Application No.: 10/661,620

Filed: September 15, 2003

Attn: **OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS**  
Notice of Allowance Mailed: March 19, 2004  
Confirmation No.: 7937  
Group Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: R. Rosenberger

Docket No.: 105173.01

For: SURFACE INSPECTION METHOD, SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS, AND RECORDING MEDIUM AND DATA SIGNAL FOR PROVIDING SURFACE INSPECTION PROGRAM

**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF  
SUBMISSION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT IN PARENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Notice of Allowance and a Notice of Allowability were mailed by the Patent Office for this application on March 19, 2004. In the Notice of Allowability (box 4) the Examiner asserted that none of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received. However, the certified copy of the priority application was submitted in parent Application No. 09/481,503. The Examiner can view the image file wrapper that is available over the Patent Office PAIR database, in order to confirm that the certified copy of the priority application was filed in parent Application No. 09/481,503.

Acknowledgement of receipt of the priority application in the parent application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario A. Costantino  
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Date: April 2, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC  
P.O. Box 19928  
Alexandria, Virginia 22320  
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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